

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A bi-directional amplifier having a first mode and a second mode comprising:
a first port;
a second port;
a first amplification path electrically connected between the second port and the first
5 port, biased to directionally couple a signal from the second port to the first
port during the first mode and biased off during the second mode; and
a second amplification path electrically connected between the first port and the second
port, biased to directionally couple a signal from the first port to the second
10 port during the second mode and biased off during the first mode.
2. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said first amplification
path is a common source amplifier.
3. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said second
amplification path is a common source amplifier.
4. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said first mode is a
receive mode and said first amplification path is a receiver amplifier which is optimized
for low noise further comprising a receiver electrode which is biased at a high voltage
potential when the receiver amplifier is in the receive mode.
5. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said second mode is a
transmit mode and said second amplification path is a transmitter amplifier which is
optimized for high power further comprising a transmitter electrode that is biased at
a high voltage potential when the transmitter amplifier is in the transmit mode.
6. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 5, wherein said receiver amplifier
further comprises an input matching network and an output matching network for
optimizing said receiver amplifier noise figure, said transmitter amplifier further

comprises an input matching and output matching network, and said receiver input and output matching networks topologies are asymmetrical to said transmitter input and output matching networks.

7. A bi-directional amplifier in accordance with Claim 6, wherein said receiver amplifier further comprises interstage matching networks optimized for low noise figure and said transmitter amplifier further comprises interstage matching networks optimized for high power output.

8. A phased array system comprising:

a plurality of radiating elements;

at least one bi-directional amplifier;

wherein said bi-directional amplifier comprises:

5 a first port;

a second port;

a receiver amplifier electrically connected between the second port and the first port

and optimized for low noise, biased to directionally couple a signal from the

second port to the first port during the receive mode and biased off during the

10 transmit mode; and

a transmitter amplifier electrically connected between the first port and the second port

and optimized for high power, biased to directionally couple a signal from the

first port to the second port during the transmit mode and biased off during the

receive mode;

15 wherein said at least one bi-directional amplifier second RF port is electrically

connected to each radiating element.

9. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said receiver amplifier is a common source amplifier.

10. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said transmitter amplifier is a common source amplifier.

11. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said receiver amplifier further comprises a receiver electrode that is biased at a high voltage potential when the receiver amplifier is in the receive mode.
12. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said transmitter amplifier further comprises a transmitter electrode that is biased at a high voltage potential when the transmitter amplifier is in the transmit mode.
13. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said phased array system is one MMIC semiconductor wafer.
14. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said receiver amplifier further comprises interstage matching networks optimized for low noise figure and said transmitter amplifier further comprises interstage matching networks optimized for high power output.
15. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 8, further comprising a combining matrix that has at least one matrix input port and at least one matrix output port wherein said bi-directional amplifier second RF port is electrically connected to said at least one matrix input port.
16. A phased array system in accordance with Claim 15, wherein said at least one bi-directional amplifier is electrically connected to said at least one matrix output port said combining matrix.
17. A method for bi-directionally amplifying an electrical signal, said method comprising the steps of:
 - providing a bi-directional amplifier having a first mode and a second mode and including a first port, a second port, a first amplification path, and a second amplification path;
 - biasing the first amplification path electrically connected between the second port and the first port to directionally couple a signal from the second port to the first port during the first mode and biased off during the second mode; and

biasing the second amplification path electrically connected between the first port and the second port, biased to directionally couple a signal from the first port to the second port during the second mode and biased off during the first mode.

18. A method for bi-directionally amplifying an electrical signal in accordance with Claim 17, wherein said first amplification path is a first amplifier including a source terminal, and further including the step of grounding said source terminal.
19. A method for bi-directionally amplifying an electrical signal in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the second amplification path is a second amplifier includes a source terminal, and further including the step of grounding said source terminal.
20. A method for a bi-directional signal flow in accordance with Claim 17, further comprising providing a radiating element that is electrically connected to said second port.